



March 18, 2020

Citizens of Angoon,

Today, under authority granted to me under AS 26.23.140 and AMC 2.66.200, I am declaring a local disaster emergency as a proactive measure to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 Virus, to open emergency funding, and to allow us to formally request state and federal support to help our village get through this pandemic. For the record, there are currently no known cases of COVID-19 in Angoon. I anticipate that the City Council will be meeting soon to formalize this declaration with a Resolution.

We are urging all Angoon residents who are returning from travel, regardless of the method of transport, to take proactive steps to reduce any potential transmission of any virus. As recommended by the CDC, individual actions that can be taken to prevent virus transmission include washing your hands regularly, coughing or sneezing into your elbow, avoiding touching your face, and practicing good social distancing. These methods should be practiced by everyone, whether you have recently travelled or not. We also strongly urge self-reporting of any potential COVID-19 contact to the Jesse Norma Jim Health Clinic. When returning from travel, please make every effort possible to avoid contact with any community members who are identified as members of high-risk groups, which are people over 65 and people with any chronic medical conditions. While it is very important to avoid contact with high-risk groups, you should also avoid contact with any person regardless of their risk group if possible until it is determined for sure that you are not infected.

We are asking that all travel that goes outside of Angoon be limited to essential travel only. Many regional events have already been cancelled, all non-emergency Medicaid travel has been cancelled, school has been cancelled, and we are sure that more closures and cancellations are on the way.

We do not have the multitude of businesses that other towns have, however, we are requesting that if possible, employees be allowed to work from home. In addition, we are strongly suggesting that all businesses take steps to prevent large gatherings at their locations and enforce strict hygiene requirements if gatherings cannot be avoided.

Effective immediately, all city offices and buildings will be closed except for those functions which are essential to the health, safety, and security of Angoon's citizens. City Hall will be closed until further notice. Water, Sewer, and Garbage Collection services will continue as normal.

We understand that many local children utilize the school breakfast, lunch, and dinner programs, and are pleased to pass along that the Chatham School District has already taken steps to continue providing these meals to students.

**City of Angoon
Office of the Mayor
PO Box 189
Angoon, AK 99820
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It is vital that we all work together as a community to reduce the risk of contracting the COVID-19 Virus, slow its spread, and avoid overwhelming our small clinic and regional healthcare system. The best way to do this is to follow the recommendations made above, and to reduce contact with others as much as possible.

As City Hall is closed until further notice, we are working on a telephonic meeting system to safely continue meeting while still allowing the public an opportunity to participate. Information about how to call in and attend any City Council meetings telephonically will be released as soon as it is available.

For more information on COVID-19, how the State is responding, and additional resources, go to:

<http://coronavirus.alaska.gov> or call 2-1-1.

I am confident that we can work together as a community to keep our citizens, especially our elders and high-risk residents, safe from this global pandemic.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joshua Bowen". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Joshua Bowen
Mayor, City of Angoon



HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION

A DECLARATION OF A LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO TAKE NECESSARY ACTIONS TO REDUCE THE IMPACT AND SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS KNOWN AS COVID-19 THROUGH ANGOON

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is caused by the SARS-Cov-2 virus (“virus”), a new strain of the corona virus that has not been previously identified in humans and is easily transmittable person to person; and,

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared the virus a pandemic; Alaska Governor Dunleavy issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency in response to the anticipated outbreak of COVID-19 in Alaska; and on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency in response to the virus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Dunleavy closed all schools in Alaska for two weeks; and,

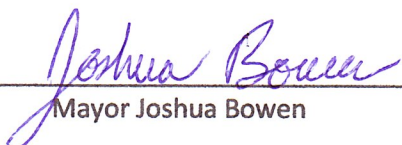
WHEREAS, nine positive cases of COVID-19 have been identified within the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, a proactive approach taken by individuals and communities to slow the rate of infection will reduce the negative impact on our health care system; and,

WHEREAS, a declaration of a local health emergency will alert the public to the seriousness of the risk, and provide direction to sources of information and other available public health resources, all while the City of Angoon works in cooperation with other local and state agencies through the Angoon Office of Emergency Management to implement actions and responses to address the probable COVID-19 outbreak.

NOW THEREFORE, A HEALTH EMERGENCY IS HEREBY DECLARED BY THE MAYOR:

1. In accordance with AMC2.66.200, the Mayor hereby declares the coronavirus threat to be a public health emergency.
2. The Angoon Office of Emergency Management is authorized to take any necessary actions in accordance with AMC2.66.210, to prepare and position our resources in order to reduce the impact and spread of the coronavirus throughout Angoon.
4. In accordance with AMC2.66.200, this declaration is effective until March 25, 2020, unless ratified and extended by a resolution of the City Council of Angoon.



Mayor Joshua Bowen